PHONEMES AND ORTHOGRAPHIC SYMBOLS

/p/	p	/m/	m	/f/	f
/b/	b	/n/	n	/v/	v
/t/	t	/ŋ/	ŋ	/r/	r
/d/	d			/l/	l
/tʃ/	c			/s/	s
/dʒ/	j			/h/	h
/k/	k			/w/	w
/g/	g			/y/	y, ŋy*
/kp/	kp				
/gb/	gb				

* in nasalized syllables: e.g. u ŋyu [u ɲũ] 'his mother'

/i/	i			/ɯ/	u
/e/	e			/o/	o
/ɛ/	ɛ			/ɔ/	ɔ
		/a/	a		

/V:/	VV
/Ṽ/	Vn

Tones:

high	´
low	`
rising	ˇ
falling	ˆ

It has not yet been decided whether tone will be marked in the orthography.

EXAMPLES

a	fágàŋgà	stake, post
b	bítùoŋgú	clay pot
c	cîɛŋò	woman
d	dúŋŋgú	hut
e	tètérré	chair
ɛ	péríɛŋó	pig
f	fĩɛlú	leaf
g	gùorúŋgú	white millet
gb	gʼòòrŋó	butterfly
h	hàlàŋó	cockroach
i	fìlŭo	indigenous aubergine
j	jígáŋgá	knife
k	kàkúmŭɔ	donkey
kp	kpàayèllé	wild fruit
l	néllé	village
m	mɔ̀sɔ̀nŋó	duiker (gazelle)
n	náŋmá	butter
ŋ	jáaŋá	millet
ŋy	ŋyémúŋgú	dance
o	kòróŋó	monkey
ɔ	kòhólŋó	rooster
p	pɛ̀ŋpàŋó	crocodile
r	cìeróŋó	guinea fowl
s	sànŋsánŋó	squirrel
t	tètèrìeŋó	fish
u	hùrùŋó	dove
v	vâaŋò	dog
w	wúsúnŋgú	igname shelter

ALPHABET

a b c d e ɛ f g gb h i j k kp l m n ŋ ŋy o ɔ p r s t u v w y

number of graphemes 2

Alphabets of Africa
edited by Rhonda L. Hartell
Published by UNESCO Regional Office in Dakar (BREDA)
12, Avenue Roume, B.P 3311, Dakar, Senegal
ISBN : 92-9091-020-3
© UNESCO, 1993
Printed by BREDA Press